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ments formed in territories under command of the president before congressional action has been taken.

International relations and the treaty making power are reviewed with special consideration of the limits of the latter. The author is inclined to give a wide extent to the treaty power—he believes that the supreme court will finally come to the frank avowal that the reserved rights of the states may be overidden by treaty, though he says that this does not mean that there cannot be a treaty which the courts would declare unconstitutional. In handling such questions the courts will act bona fide and not allow a treaty to change the fundamental character of the government. The volume closes with a discussion of elections, legislative procedure and taxation.

The chief subjects of the second volume are interstate commerce and the prohibitions which the constitution places upon Congress and the states. The review of the development of our present definition of commerce, and the decisions in the lottery, liquor and oleomargarine cases have largely become a matter of history but the chapter on federal control deals with material of comparatively recent date in which the final holdings of the court are still in doubt on many points.

The history of federal legislation on commerce is traced through the acts of 1908 and the decisions from the Knight case through the various modifications introduced by the courts culminating in the Danbury Hatters' case are reviewed. An independent discussion of the relations of trade unions to interstate commerce and the power of Congress to charter corporations to engage in interstate and intra-state commerce gives some interesting points of view as to the extent and nature of the federal power.

The latter half of Volume II is devoted to an exposition of some of the less evident but to the constitutional lawyer often highly important features of our constitutional law. The position of the judiciary as to political questions, interstate suits, suits against states, admiralty and maritime jurisdiction, appointment and removal of officers, military and martial law, the conclusiveness of administrative determinations, are titles which will serve to indicate the character of the questions which though technical are often of supreme importance in determining rights to which they seem at first to have but remote relation.

A brief review can only point out a few of the salient points of such a comprehensive work as this. In its scholarly and judicial treatment of our constitution it is not equalled by any recent treatise. It combines the exactness demanded of our best legal works with an appreciation of the larger application of our constitution as a mode of life as well as a rule of law. There are select tables of cases and a comprehensive index.

CHESTER LLOYD JONES.

University of Wisconsin.

Woodruff, Clinton Rogers. (Ed.). City Government by Commission. Pp. xii, 381. Price, \$1.50. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1911.

The publication committee of the National Municipal League, composed of

Professors Albert Bushnell Hart, Charles A. Beard, William Bennett Munro, Leo S. Rowe, with Clinton Rogers Woodruff as chairman, have planned a series of volumes to be known as the National Municipal League Series. The volumes are to be based, in part at least, upon the papers that have been read and the discussions that have taken place at the annual meetings of the league. The editor of each is given complete freedom as to his volume, including the freedom to write such chapters as he wishes and to select such papers as he deems most valuable. Such a plan ought to secure a well planned and valuable series, and give a wider circulation to the many able papers that have been prepared under the auspices of the National Municipal League.

"City Government by Commission" is the first of the series to appear. Of the seventeen chapters in the volume, the editor has written nine. The remaining chapters are written by Prof. William Bennett Munro, Oswald Ryan, Dr. Ernest S. Bradford, Ansley Wilcox, Horace E. Deming, Knowlton Mixer, Rear Admiral F. E. Chadwick and Prof. Albert Bushnell Hart. The growth of the commission movement and the principles involved in the commission plan are clearly and adequately discussed. Leading types of commission plans and salient provisions of commission statutes and charters are interestingly described and analyzed. The arguments for and against the commission plan are succinctly stated. Its applicability to large cities is ably discussed both pro and con. The results of the plan in certain cities, especially in Texas and Iowa cities, are given. These results are based upon the material furnished by those thoroughly conversant with the local situation in each of the cities.

The editor concludes that commission government has so far been distinctly successful. Its success he attributes to "two fundamental essentials to successful municipal government: simplicity and concentration of authority and responsibility." The book gives an able, readable and comprehensive description of the commission plan, its accomplishments and its future. It sets a high standard for succeeding volumes in the series.

Three other volume in the series will soon be ready for the press. These have to do with "The Regulation of Municipal Utilities," "The Initiative, Referendum and Recall" and "Constitutional Municipal Home Rule." Four other volumes are planned, dealing respectively with "Municipal Recreation," "City Planning," "Municipal Health and Sanitation" and "City Finances." The series thus promises to give timely and adequate discussions of vital municipal problems.

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Woodruff, Clinton Rogers (Ed.). Proceedings of the Buffalo Conference for Good City Government and the Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the National Municipal League. Pp. vi, 587. Price, \$4.00. Philadelphia: National Municipal League, 1910.

The marked characteristic of this volume is its freedom from the platitudinous